

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1. (currently amended) An immunogenic composition comprising:
 - (a) an immunostimulating amount of a *Neisseria* antigen; and
 - (b) an immunostimulating amount of an adjuvant composition comprising:
 - (i) an oligonucleotide comprising at least one CG motif; and
 - (ii) an emulsion comprising submicron oil droplets and an emulsifying agent, wherein the ratio of the emulsifying agent to the oil in said emulsion allows production of an emulsion wherein at least 80% of said oil droplets are less than 1 micron in diameter.
2. (original) The composition of claim 1, wherein said *Neisseria* antigen is selected from the group consisting of a protein, protein-polysaccharide, protein-lipopolysaccharide, polysaccharide, and lipopolysaccharide.
3. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said *Neisseria* antigen is from *Neisseria meningitidis* or *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*.
4. (original) The composition of claim 3 wherein said *Neisseria* antigen is a *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B peptide.
5. (original) The composition of claim 4 wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO:31.
6. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein component (b) further comprises a second adjuvant.
7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) The composition of claim ~~7~~ 1, wherein said ~~oil droplet~~ emulsion comprises a metabolizable oil ~~and an emulsifying agent~~.

9. (currently amended) The composition of claim 8, ~~wherein said oil and said emulsifying agent are present in the form of an oil in water emulsion having oil droplets substantially all of which are less than 1 micron in diameter and~~ wherein said ~~composition~~ emulsion exists in the absence of any polyoxypropylene-polyoxyethylene block copolymer.

10. (original) The composition of claim 9, wherein said oil is an animal oil, an unsaturated hydrocarbon, a vegetable oil, or a terpenoid.

11. (original) The composition of claim 10 wherein said terpenoid is squalene.

12. (original) The composition of any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein said composition comprises 0.5 to 20% by volume of said oil in an aqueous medium.

13. (previously presented) The composition of any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein said emulsifying agent comprises a non-ionic detergent or a polyoxyethylene sorbitan mono-, di-, or triester or a sorbitan mono-, di-, or triether.

14. (previously presented) The composition of any one of claims 8 to 11, wherein said composition comprises 0.01 to 0.5 % by weight of said emulsifying agent.

15. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, further comprising a separate immunostimulating agent.

16. (original) The composition of claim 15 wherein said immunostimulating agent is selected from the group consisting of a bacterial cell wall component and muramyl peptide.

17. (previously presented) The composition of claim 6, wherein said second adjuvant comprises alum, incomplete Freund's adjuvant (IFA), or complete Freund's adjuvant (CFA).

18. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate bond.

19. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, and SEQ ID NO:27.

20. (previously presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises a CG motif flanked by two purines immediately 5' to said motif and two pyrimidines immediately 3' to said motif.

21. (original) The composition of claim 20, wherein said oligonucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, and SEQ ID NO:25.

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) A vaccine composition comprising:
a) an immunostimulating amount of a *Neisseria* antigen; and
b) an ~~immunostimulating~~ immunostimulating amount of an adjuvant composition comprising:

- (i) an oligonucleotide comprising at least one CG motif; and
- (ii) an emulsion comprising submicron oil droplets and an emulsifying agent, wherein the ratio of the emulsifying agent to the oil in said emulsion allows production of an emulsion wherein at least 80% of said oil droplets are less than 1 micron in diameter.

24. (original) The vaccine composition of claim 23, wherein component (b) further comprises a second adjuvant.

25. (original) The vaccine composition of claim 23 or claim 24, wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO:31.

26. (canceled)

27. (withdrawn) An adjuvant composition comprising:

- a) an oligonucleotide comprising at least one CG motif; and
- b) complete Freund's adjuvant.

28. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 27 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises at least one phosphorothioate bond.

29. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 27 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:5, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:14, SEQ ID NO:15, SEQ ID NO:16, SEQ ID NO:17, SEQ ID NO:18, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, SEQ ID NO:25, SEQ ID NO:26, and SEQ ID NO:27.

30. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 27 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises a CG motif flanked by two purines immediately 5' to said motif and two pyrimidines immediately 3' to said motif.

31. (withdrawn) The composition of claim 30 wherein said oligonucleotide comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:1, SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:7, SEQ ID NO:8, SEQ ID NO:9, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, SEQ ID NO:19, SEQ ID NO:20, SEQ ID NO:21, SEQ ID NO:22, SEQ ID NO:23, SEQ ID NO:24, and SEQ ID NO:25.

32. (withdrawn) A method of stimulating an immune response in a host animal comprising administering to said animal a composition according to claim 1 in an amount effective to induce an immune response.

33. (withdrawn) The method of claim 32 wherein said host animal is a mammal.

34. (withdrawn) A method of immunizing a host animal against *Neisseria* infection comprising administering to said animal a composition according to claim 23 in an amount effective to induce a protective response.

35. (withdrawn) The method of claim 34 wherein said host animal is a mammal.

36. (withdrawn) The method of claim 35 wherein said mammal is a human.

37. (withdrawn) A method of immunizing a host animal against *Neisseria meningitidis* comprising administering to said animal a composition according to claim 23 in an amount effective to induce a protective response, wherein said antigen is a *Neisseria meningitidis* group B peptide.

38. (withdrawn) The method of claim 37 wherein said peptide comprises SEQ ID NO:31.

39. (withdrawn) The method of claim 38 wherein said host animal is a human.

40-42. (canceled)

43. (previously presented) The composition of claim 12, wherein said emulsifying agent comprises a non-ionic detergent or a polyoxyethylene sorbitan mono-, di-, or triester or a sorbitan mono-, di-, or triether.

44. (previously presented) The composition of claim 12, wherein said composition comprises 0.01 to 0.5 % by weight of said emulsifying agent.

45. (previously presented) The composition of claim 13, wherein said composition comprises 0.01 to 0.5 % by weight of said emulsifying agent.